

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CPR-01 USSS-00 SCCT-01 /077 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

A/SY - MR. HICKEY

IO/UNP - MR. CUTTER

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R 170150Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NY

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK

REF: STATE 055157

1. DURING MEETING AT DEPARTMENT MARCH 16, DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR PROTECTIVE SECURITY HICKEY AND EUR/SOV OFFICERS DISCUSSED PROTECTION SITUATION IN NEW YORK WITH SOVEMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER YURCHENKO AND EMBOFF MALNEV. HICKEY SAID THAT, AFTER 8 DAYS OF SPECIAL SECURITY PROTECTION BY DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL AGENTS SENT TO NEW YORK, WE HAD NO RPT NO INDICATION OF THREAT AT THIS TIME TO SAFETY OF FOUR SMUN EMPLOYEES NAMED IN SOHO NEWS ARTICLE. SPECIAL AGENTS HAD IDENTIFIED NO SURVEILLANCE OF FOUR EMPLOYEES AND NO INTENT OF HARASSMENT. BASED ON DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT EVALUATION OF SITUATION, HICKEY
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SAID WE FELT CONFIDENT THAT FOUR EMPLOYEES COULD GO BACK

TO NORMAL ROUTINE AND DUTIES. THEREFORE, IF SOVIET EMBASSY AGREED, DEPARTMENT WOULD REMOVE SPECIAL PROTECTION. HICKEY MADE IT CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT IF SOVIETS WISHED WE WOULD CONTINUE SPECIAL PROTECTION, AND THAT WE FELT IT WAS

WISE TO PROVIDE THE SPECIAL PROTECTION IN THE SITUATION THAT EXISTED IN NEW YORK AT THE TIME.

2. YURCHENKO SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN WITH SOVIET CHARGE VORONTSOV AND THAT HE WAS AUTHORIZED TO AGREE TO REMOVAL OF SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR FOUR SMUN EMPLOYEES. HE SAID SMUN AND SOVIET EMBASSY WERE VERY PLEASED WITH SPECIAL PROTECTION AND ASKED THAT THEIR THANKS BE PASSED ON TO THOSE INVOLVED. HE SAID DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL AGENTS HAD WORKDED HARD AND WELL AND JOB WAS PROFESSIONALLY DONE. YURCHENKO SAID THAT VORONTSOV HAD ASKED HIM TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT U.S. AUTHORITIES WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO PROTECT SOVIET OFFICES AND REPRESENTATIVES EVEN THOUGH SPECIAL AGENTS REMOVED. WE TOLD HIM THAT ALL INVOLVED WERE WELL AWARE OF NEED TO DO SO AND THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE SITUATION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE064362
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MLEVITSKY:VPB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760100-0472
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760351/aaaabsii.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 55157
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROTECTION OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK
TAGS: ASEC, UR, US
To: MOSCOW USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006